

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please AMEND claims 1-17 and ADD claims 18-30, as follows matter.

1. (Currently Amended) A sheet conveying apparatus comprising:

a sheet conveyor which conveys ~~conveying means for conveying~~ a sheet;

a ~~movable~~ conveying guide which guides the sheet conveyed by said sheet ~~conveying means~~ conveyor, and which is movable between a conveying position and a retracting position;

a ~~movable~~ sheet conveying rotating body which conveys the sheet guided by said conveying guide, and which is movable between a conveying position and a retracting position; and

a moving unit which moves ~~means for moving~~ said conveying guide and said sheet conveying rotating body from ~~a~~ the respective sheet conveying ~~positions~~ position to ~~each~~ the respective retracting ~~positions~~ position ~~separating from the sheet conveying position,~~

wherein a peripheral surface of said sheet conveying rotating body is projected from a sheet guiding surface of said conveying guide when said sheet conveying rotating body is located at in said sheet conveying position, and the peripheral surface of said sheet conveying rotating body is retracted from the sheet guiding surface of said conveying guide when said sheet conveying rotating body is ~~located at in~~ the retracting position.

2. (Currently Amended) A sheet conveying apparatus according to claim 1, wherein a moving distance of said sheet conveying rotating body moved by said moving ~~means~~ unit is set longer than ~~a~~ the moving distance of said conveying guide.

3. (Currently Amended) A sheet conveying apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising ~~a movable~~ an arm member which has said sheet conveying rotating body, wherein said arm member is moved by said moving ~~unit~~ means.

4. (Currently Amended) A sheet conveying apparatus according to claim 3, further comprising an interlocking mechanism ~~means~~ interlocked interlocking said conveying guide with said ~~moving means and moves said conveying guide~~ arm member when said arm member is moved by said moving ~~unit~~ means.

5. (Currently Amended) A sheet conveying apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said interlocking mechanism ~~retracts said sheet conveying rotating body~~ means ~~is retracted~~ from the sheet guiding surface of said conveying guide and then moves said conveying guide when said sheet conveying rotating body is moved to the retracting position by said moving ~~unit~~ means.

6. (Currently Amended) A sheet conveying apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said interlocking mechanism ~~means~~ has comprises a pair of abutting portions which is ~~are~~ provided in said conveying guide and said arm member and which ~~can be separated~~ are

separable from each other, and the pair of abutting portions moves said conveying guide in such a manner that the pair of abutting portions abut ~~abuts on~~ each other.

7. (Currently Amended) A sheet conveying apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said interlocking mechanism ~~means~~ has an elastic body which interlocks said conveying guide with said arm member, and said arm member moves said conveying guide through the elastic body.

8. (Currently Amended) A sheet conveying apparatus according to claim 3, wherein said moving unit ~~means~~ has a cam which moves said arm in such a manner that the cam is rotated while the cam is always in contact with said arm member.

9. (Currently Amended) A sheet conveying apparatus according to claim 3, further comprising an wherein energizing member which energizes ~~means for energizing~~ said conveying guide to a side of the sheet conveying position, wherein said energizing member is provided between said conveying guide and said arm member.

10. (Currently Amended) A sheet conveying apparatus according to claim 1, ~~wherein said~~ further comprising another sheet conveying rotating body which makes a pair ~~plurality~~ of sheet conveying rotating bodies with said sheet conveying rotating body, said pair of sheet conveying rotating bodies having a plurality of rollers is alternately arranged on opposite rotating axes.

11. (Currently Amended) A sheet post-processing apparatus comprising:
a sheet conveying apparatus ~~according to claim 1~~; and
a sheet post-processing unit which performs means for performing processing
to a sheet, ~~stored in said conveying guide.~~

said sheet conveying apparatus comprising:
sheet conveyor which conveys a sheet;
a conveying guide which guides the sheet conveyed by said sheet conveyor,
and which is movable between a conveying position and a retracting position;
a sheet conveying rotating body which conveys the sheet guided by said
conveying guide, and which is movable between a conveying position and a retracting position;
and
a moving unit which moves said conveying guide and said sheet conveying
rotating body from the respective sheet conveying positions to the respective retracting positions,
wherein a peripheral surface of said sheet conveying rotating body is projected
from a sheet guiding surface of said conveying guide when said sheet conveying rotating body is
in the sheet conveying position, and the peripheral surface of said sheet conveying rotating body
is retracted from the sheet guiding surface of said conveying guide when said sheet conveying
guide when said sheet conveying rotating body is in the retracting position.

12. (Currently Amended) A sheet post-processing apparatus according to
claim 11, wherein said sheet conveyor ~~conveying means~~, said conveying guide, said sheet post-

processing unit means, and said sheet conveying rotating body are substantially arranged in a a line.

13. (Currently Amended) A sheet post-processing apparatus according to claim 11, further comprising a pair of conveying guides oppositely provided in a vertical direction, wherein said conveying guide is the upper side one in said pair of conveying guides, and said sheet post-processing ~~means~~ unit performs processing to a sheet stacked on the lower side one of the fixed conveying guide opposite to said conveying guide.

14. (Currently Amended) A sheet post-processing apparatus according to claim 11, further comprising a returning member which returns ~~means for rotating~~ the sheet stored in the lower side one in said pair of conveying guides ~~said conveying guide~~ to an upstream side in a sheet conveying direction ~~to return the sheet~~, wherein said conveying guide and said returning member are rotatably supported on the same shaft ~~means are provided while rotating centers of said conveying guide and said returning means are located at the same position.~~

15. (Currently Amended) A sheet post-processing apparatus according to claim 11, comprising:

a first processing mode which positions said sheet conveying rotating body at the sheet conveying position, passes the sheet through said conveying guide with said sheet conveying rotating body to convey the sheet; and

a second processing mode which moves said sheet conveying rotating body to the retracting position, in the second processing mode, intermediately stores the predetermined number of sheets are intermediately stored in said conveying guide at a position where the conveyed sheet is passed through said sheet conveying means, performed performs post-processing to the predetermined number of sheets with by said sheet post-processing unit means, moves said sheet conveying rotating body to the sheet conveying position, and conveys a bundle of the predetermined number of sheets with conveyed by said sheet conveying rotating body which moved to the sheet conveying rotating body.

16. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus comprising:
image forming portion which forms means for forming an image in a sheet;
and
a sheet conveying apparatus which conveys the sheet,
~~wherein said sheet conveying apparatus is said sheet conveying apparatus as in~~
~~one of claims 1 to 10:~~

said sheet conveying apparatus comprising:
a sheet conveyor which conveys a sheet;
a conveying guide which guides the sheet conveyed by said sheet conveyor,
and which is movable between a conveying position and a retracting position;
a sheet conveying rotating body which conveys the sheet guided by said
conveying guide, and which is movable between a conveying position and a retracting position;
and

a moving unit which moves said conveying guide and said sheet conveying rotating body from the respective sheet conveying positions to the respective retracting positions,

wherein a peripheral surface of said sheet conveying rotating body is projected from a sheet guiding surface of said conveying guide when said sheet conveying rotating body is in the sheet conveying position, and the peripheral surface of said sheet conveying rotating body is retracted from the sheet guiding surface of said conveying guide when said sheet conveying rotating body is in the retracting position.

17. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus according to claim 16, wherein a moving distance of said sheet conveying rotating body moved by said moving unit is set longer than a moving distance of said conveying guide, comprising:

~~image forming means for forming an image in a sheet; and~~

~~a sheet post-processing apparatus which performs post-processing in which an image is formed by said image forming means to the sheet;~~

~~wherein said sheet post-processing apparatus is said sheet post-processing apparatus as in one of claims 11 to 15.~~

18. (New) An image forming apparatus according to claim 16, further comprising a arm member which has said sheet conveying rotating body, wherein said arm member is moved by said moving unit.

19. (New) An image forming apparatus according to claim 18, further comprising interlocking mechanism that interlocks said conveying guide with said arm member when said arm member is moved by said moving unit.

20. (New) An image forming apparatus according to claim 19, wherein said interlocking mechanism retracts said sheet conveying rotating body from the sheet guiding surface of said conveying guide and then moves said conveying guide, when said sheet conveying rotating body is moved to the retracting position by said moving unit.

21. (New) An image forming apparatus according to claim 19, wherein said interlocking mechanism comprises a pair of abutting portions which are provided in said conveying guide and said arm member and which are separable from each other, and the pair of abutting portions move said conveying guide in such a manner that the pair of abutting portions abut on each other.

22. (New) An image forming apparatus according to claim 19, wherein said interlocking mechanism has an elastic body which interlocks said conveying guide with said arm member, and said arm member moves said conveying guide through the elastic body.

23. (New) An image forming apparatus according to claim 18, wherein said moving unit has a cam which moves said arm member in such a manner that the cam is rotated while the cam is always in contact with said arm member.

24. (New) An image forming apparatus according to claim 18, further comprising an energizing member which energizes said conveying guide to a side of the sheet conveying position, wherein said energizing member is provided between said conveying guide and said arm member.

25. (New) An image forming apparatus according to claim 16, further comprising another sheet conveying rotating body which makes a pair of sheet conveying rotating bodies with said sheet conveying rotating body, said pair of sheet conveying rotating bodies having a plurality of rollers alternately arranged on opposite rotating axes.

26. (New) An image forming apparatus comprising:
image forming means for forming an image in a sheet; and
a sheet post-processing apparatus which performs post-processing in which an image is formed by said image forming means to the sheet,

said sheet post-processing apparatus comprising:

a sheet conveyor which conveys a sheet;

a conveying guide which guides the sheet conveyed by said sheet conveyor, and which is movable between a conveying position and a retracting position;

a sheet conveying rotating body which conveys the sheet guided by said conveying guide, and which is movable between a conveying position and a retracting position,;
and

a moving unit which moves said conveying guide and said sheet

conveying rotating body from the respective sheet conveying positions to the respective retracting positions,

wherein a peripheral surface of said sheet conveying rotating body is projected from a sheet guiding surface of said conveying guide when said sheet conveying rotating body is in the sheet conveying position, and the peripheral surface of said sheet conveying rotating body is retracted from the sheet guiding surface of said conveying guide when said sheet conveying rotating body is in the retracting position.

27. (New) An image forming apparatus according to claim 26, wherein said sheet conveyor, said conveying guide, said sheet post-processing unit, and said sheet conveying rotating body are substantially arranged in line.

28. (New) An image forming apparatus according to claim 26, further comprising a pair of conveying guides oppositely provided in a vertical direction, wherein said conveying guide is the upper side one in said pair of conveying guides, and said sheet post-processing unit performs processing to a sheet stacked on the lower side one in said pair of conveying guides opposite to said conveying guide.

29. (New) An image forming apparatus according to claim 26, further comprising a returning member which returns the sheet stored in the lower side one in said pair of conveying guides to an upstream side in a sheet conveying direction, wherein said conveying guide and said returning member are rotatably supported on the same shaft.

30. (New) An image forming apparatus according to claim 26, further comprising:

a first processing mode which positions said sheet conveying rotating body at the sheet conveying position, and passes the sheet through said conveying guide with said sheet conveying rotating body to convey the sheet; and

a second processing mode which moves said sheet conveying rotating body to the retracting position, and in the second processing mode, the predetermined number of sheets are intermediately stored in said conveying guide, performed post-processing by said sheet post-processing unit, and conveyed by said sheet conveying rotating body which moved to the sheet conveying position.